



KEATS ON MICROFILM

By David Ovens

Microfilms of the most significant part of the collection at Keats Memorial House, Keats Grove, Hampstead, have been sent to the Houghton Library at Harvard University. Copies of these microfilms, with microfilms of the original Keats manuscripts housed at Harvard, will be presented to the Hampstead Central Library, where they will be available to scholars and research students.

Authority for the microfilming of the books and papers at Keats House was given by the Hampstead Borough Council at the request of the Keats-Shelley Memorial Association of America, which has financed the entire project. This association has also commissioned microfilms of the Keats relics kept at the Keats-Shelley Memorial in Rome, and has presented a copy of these to Hampstead Borough Council for exhibition in Hampstead, thus making the collection there more comprehensive than it is at present.

The microfilming at Hampstead was carried out by University Microfilms of London, which specialises in microfilming original historical material for use by scholars in universities and public libraries throughout the world. Included in the collection microfilmed were:

- * several of Keats's school books.
- * his medical notebook, containing notes of the courses he attended while he was a medical student at Guy's Hospital in 1815-1816.
- * the unpleasant letter from Messrs. C.J. Ollier, publishers of Keats's first volume of poems, to Keats's brother, George, which begins: "We regret that your brother ever requested us to publish his book..."
- * the volume of *Endymion* which is believed to be Keats's own proof copy.
- * Keats's own copies of Milton's *Paradise Lost* and his Shakespeare, including the copy he inscribed and presented to Fanny Brawne.
- * the heavily annotated copy of Burton's *Anatomy of Melancholy*, from which Keats took the story of *Lamia*.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

XEROGRAPHY COMES TO UM — ELECTROSTATIC "PRINTING" FROM FILM

Some of the most important and dramatic moments in the history of man's improvement of the conditions of life occur when he discovers radically new ways of doing old things, as when he uses gunpowder instead of a strung bow, steam and a propellor instead of wind and sail, sonar instead of a sounding lead, radar instead of a lookout, nylon instead of the cocoon of the silkworm, a jet of air instead of an airscrew.

In the history of the book there have been two such moments, the first, of course, being the development of moveable type; the second, the perfecting of the Linotype by means of which composition was reduced to the tapping of keys. Moveable type sounded the knell of the scrivener-copyist. The Linotype sounded the knell of the hand-compositor.

Until this very present time - apart from these two great moments in printing and publishing - nothing radically new had happened. Anatomically, the book was essentially the same as it was before Gutenberg, and, technologically, it had been produced in much the same way since then. Whether the process had been letterpress or offset, whether it had been effected on hand presses, vertical presses, or great rotaries, wet ink was still placed on the type face and paper was pressed to it, directly or indirectly, in order to obtain a transfer.

Now, another of those great moments is at hand. Man has developed a radically new way of printing, one that is as different from the wet ink-pressing process as sonar is from the sounding lead. For the librarian and scholar the magnitude and significance of this moment can hardly be exaggerated, for what this radically new process does is to supplement microfilm, giving it a medial function in a simple sequence that results in a printed and enlarged image on paper, rather than, as has been the case to this time, leaving microfilm as an end in itself.

Outwardly, the process is simplicity itself. All you have to do is obtain from The Haloid Com-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)



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MICROCOSM is intended to bring interesting news of microfilming in all of its phases to the attention of librarians and others who, in the opinion of the Publisher, will benefit by receiving it.

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KEATS ON FILM

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

- * A selection of letters (mainly from the Dilke collection) written by Keats to his brother, Tom, to his sister, Fanny, and to his closest friends, Charles Wentworth Dilke and Charles Armitage Brown. These include Keats's letter to sister before her confirmation, signed "Parson John", and several letters written by Keats and Brown during their exhausting walking tour in Scotland, which was to be the prelude to Keats's fatal illness.
- * one of Keats's last love letters to Fanny Brawne, written when he was ill in his rooms in Kentish Town in May, 1820.
- * Keats's volume of Shakespeare's poetical works, in which he copied on the fly leaf, as he was on board the brig "Maria Crowther", leaving England for the last time, the poem known for a long time as his "last sonnet".
- * Keats's last letter to Mrs. Brawne, Fanny's mother, written from Naples harbour in October, 1820 - the last of his letters to be delivered at the house in Hampstead.
- * a collection of 31 letters from Fanny Brawne to Fanny Keats, the discovery of which, by revealing more of her character, did much to soften the harsh criticism of Fanny Brawne made in earlier studies of Keats's life. □□

XEROGRAPHY COMES TO UM

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

pany of Rochester, New York, a machine which they call XeroX Copyflo Model No. 1. It is a neat device, entirely enclosed in handsomely-finished sheet metal. Its vital statistics are: weight, 1800 pounds; width, 33 inches; length, 6 feet 2 inches; and height, 7 and 1/2 feet.

Into this little wizard one puts four things: 1., microfilm; 2., a 2,000 foot roll of paper; 3., some powder - black but not explosive; and 4., 2200 volts of electricity. The end of the paper is threaded, within the machine, over and under some smaller spools and things, and then emerges from an opening in the front of the machine where it is affixed to a spool on a shaft which is geared to revolve and wind.

These things done, one pushes a few buttons, whereupon there emerges from the maw of this device a stream of paper with printing on it. The outside spool winds this paper up. Comparison of the microfilm with the processed paper reveals that the latter is a black and white, photo-exact enlargement of the former.

One is left speechless with the ease and the quiet with which all of this is done. It is all so simple. And it is simple - in the sense that Einstein's theory of relativity is a simplification of Newton's theory of gravity. It is simplification through complication, where the complicated things are done automatically and the burden on man is reduced to a few adjustments and routine attentions.

How is it done? In a word, the answer is *electricity*: 2200 volts of it and 4000 watts of it. To use a few more words, the explanation lies in the well-known fact that like charges of electricity repel each other and opposite charges attract each other. And a further explanation is to be found in the equally natural phenomenon whereby the conductivity of certain substances increases with the intensity of the light to which they are exposed. Such a substance, for example, is selenium.

Hardly anything could be simpler. One simply shines light through the film onto selenium. Then, onto this surface, one spills a black powder which is oppositely charged. Result? The powder sticks where it should, and doesn't stick where it shouldn't. That which sticks is then transferred to paper. This is accomplished by having the paper charged oppositely to the powdered image. To make this a permanent image, all that is required is that the powder be fused to the paper. This is effected by some of those 4000 watts.

These things done - and these are the things that are done - the paper comes galloping out of the machine at the rate of 20 feet a minute. Twenty feet, it may be mentioned, would contain a minimum of 20 pages, and might contain many more - for this is a flexible machine both as to width of paper and the amount of enlargement.

However, despite the fact that The Haloid Company, proudly and properly, refers to this 1800 pound baby as a "continuous printer", and despite

the further fact that what comes out of it is, to all intents and purposes, "printing", this is not a printer in the strict, etymological sense of the word. For nothing is imprinted - that is, there is no pressure or pressing. On the contrary, what happens is that the powder "jumps", first onto the magic surface, and thence onto the paper. Nor is there any ink to dry, but rather a bond to be effected under heat. To be precise, this is electrostatic reproduction. The Haloid Company calls the process Xerography which, literally, means to draw or reproduce something in a dry manner - that is, without liquid.

Needless to say, this microfilm-supplementing process (Xerographic or electrostatic, call it what you will) would be of little value (to bibliography and scholarship) if it did not support and maintain the outstanding characteristic and value of microfilm, namely, that of keeping costs down for small quantities, and even editions of but one single copy. And so, it is with a sense of a very great moment that we say, in brief and in fact, that we can supply you with what appear to be printed paper versions of microfilmed material and, what is more, can do so within the austere, economic necessities of that most paradoxical and painful of dichotomies: higher learning and lower earning. □

UM WELCOMES NEW PARTICIPANTS TO DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS PROGRAM

We are pleased to announce that several new schools have joined the *DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS* program in the past several months. We will now microfilm and abstract the doctoral dissertations from the following universities:

University of Delaware
Institutum Divi Thomae Foundation
Iowa State College
University of Kentucky
University of Oregon
Oregon State College
The University of Texas

It will interest our readers to know that the issue for *DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS* Volume XVIII, No. 1 is in process at the present time, and Issues 11 and 12 of Volume XVII are with the printer. By the first of December we will be accumulating the abstracts that we will publish in *DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS* Volume XVIII, No. 2.

The *INDEX TO AMERICAN DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS 1956-1957* (Issue No. 13 of Volume XVII) is also in progress at the present time. There was much for us to learn as we worked through our first publication of the Index; and with the consistent cooperation of the participating schools we hope to deliver this to our subscribers within a reasonable length of time. □

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HISTORICAL REVIEW MICROFILMED

By W. D. Aeschbacher

The original purpose of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, as set out in a proposed draft of the constitution at the organizational meeting in 1907, was to "promote and popularize historical study and to provide a plan of cooperation for local and state Historical Societies of the Mississippi Valley". Active members were to be limited to officers or functionaries of state and local historical societies.

In fifty years of activity the Association has departed in many ways from the original purposes. The emphasis on local and state societies was never adopted and within a few years the major portion of the membership and leadership was to be found in academic circles. The organization did not confine itself to the Mississippi Valley, a fact that has caused numerous proposals for changes of name and brought about the addition in 1938 of "A Journal of American History" as a sub title to *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review*. In 1955 the Association elected a President from Maine and, after a year in Kentucky, the office moved to Oregon in 1957. This indicates in some degree how national the Association had become, both in the distribution of membership and in its interests.

In its formative years the Association published its *Proceedings* annually. This series started in 1908 and was continued until 1923. There are only 11 volumes of the *Proceedings* as volumes 9 and 10 were issued in three parts with each part covering a year and volume 11 covers two years.

In 1914 the Association supplemented the *Proceedings* with a quarterly magazine, *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review*. This is now in its 44th volume and is recognized to be the "Journal of American History" that it calls itself. In speaking of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association and the *Review*, John Hicks said it furnishes the best cross section available of current scholarship in United States history.

Like many other academic organizations the MVHA has had its ups and downs in membership and in finances. By the mid 1950s the Association had become a sizeable and flourishing organization. It found itself embarrassed with increasing frequency, however, by its inability to supply some of its back issues to libraries and individuals desiring to acquire complete files. To help meet such requests it entered into an agreement with University Microfilms to make its publication available on film.

Both the *Proceedings* and the *Review* have been filmed; the eleven volumes of the *Proceedings* sell at \$28.00 and volumes 1 through 41 of the *Review* at \$160.00. Volumes 42 and 43 of the *Review* are also available on microfilm at \$2.45 each, but their sale is restricted to present members of the Association.

Mr. Aeschbacher is Secretary-Treasurer of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association. He is also Director of the Nebraska State Historical Society. □

"PRINTING" IN EDITIONS OF ONE

By Eugene B. Power

On page one of this issue is an announcement of installation of a Xerox continuous printer by University Microfilms. This is a significant step which we think is of supreme importance to librarians and scholars.

One of the important features of microfilm is that it can be economically produced in editions of one on demand. There are no unsold copies to store; there are no remainder sales; purchasers do not have to pay for the publisher's wrong guesses.

Xerography has this same advantage. Where only one or a few copies are wanted, it is by far the least expensive way to furnish a printed, normal-sized reproduction. If one copy is wanted the enlargement is made directly from the microfilm. If a large number of copies is wanted, short-run masters can be made from which a thousand or more copies can be printed by offset lithography.

With a large library of negative microfilm University Microfilms is in an excellent position to draw on this to furnish librarians and scholars with either positive microfilm or Xerographic enlargements on ordinary paper---whichever is more convenient.

Doctoral dissertations, Early English Books, non-copyrighted periodicals are only a sampling from our film vault. We will also do contract work for the enlarged reproductions of materials in your microfilm library. By using microfilm as an intermediary original library materials can also be reproduced by Xerography.

There are three principal methods of securing Xerox enlargements from microfilm, based on the material or the type of enlargements desired:

1. Xerographic enlargements of doctoral dissertations supplied by University Microfilms are

offered as half size: an 8 1/2 X 11 inch original is reproduced as approximately 5 1/2 x 8 1/2". The cost for such reproduction is 4 cents per page, flat rate. Minimum, \$2.00 per dissertation.

2. Enlargements made from University Microfilms non-copyrighted negative files are billed at 10 cents per running foot of Xerox paper, with the size of the reproduction determining the cost. (See our catalogue for lists.) The larger the page size, in other words, the fewer pages per foot of paper. For example, at the normal 5 1/2 x 8 1/2" page size, two to four pages may be printed per running foot (depending on the microfilm format) for a cost of roughly 2 to 5 cents per page.
3. Reproductions from your own negative or positive microfilm can be made at a cost of about 6 cents per running foot of Xerox paper. A schedule of prices as well as an explanatory order form is available. Reproductions can be made on various types of paper: ledger stock, rag, sulphate, etc., at prices shown on the price list. Ordinarily 20 lb. sulphate paper will be used.

Unless otherwise specified, enlargements will be supplied in uncut roll form. We will cut printed material and insert your Xerox pages in an attractive, plastic paper cover binding for an additional cost of \$2.00 per item. Proper identification of the work will be on the cover.

There are a multitude of possible uses for Xerox. One thinks immediately of the lists of out-of-print books for which libraries are always searching and lost issues of journals needed to fill out sets. Monographs of limited circulation can be published at a minimal cost. UM would like to explore these and other exciting applications with all who are interested. □

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